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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** PROPERTY OWNER/TENANT

**FROM:** UNIFIED COMMAND: Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident

**SUBJECT:** Documentation Package for Residential Sampling and Cleanup resulting from the Fruitland Magnesium Fire

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 5, 2016

The Unified Command for the Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident in Maywood, Los Angeles County, Calif., was formed to oversee and direct response operations and assessment of hazardous materials in response to the impacts of the fire that began on June 14, 2016 at the recycling facility located at 3570 Fruitland Avenue. The Unified Command is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD).

As part of the response efforts, assessment and cleanup, as needed, of residential properties on E 52<sup>nd</sup> Street was performed. All of the properties on the north side of E 52<sup>nd</sup> Street were evacuated during the assessment and cleanup, in order to ensure the safety of the residents and prevent contamination from being spread into your homes. As part of this effort you signed an Access Agreement, allowing EPA and its contractors conduct assessments of your property and your home, including to sampling of soil, air and dust at your property for the presence of fire ash and/or harmful particulates as a result of the fire. Before you were able to return to your home, the Unified Command reviewed the results of the sampling and assessments, determined what type of cleaning was necessary for your home and outdoor areas, conducted that work, and performed re-sampling after indoor cleaning. The sampling results were then reviewed, a recommendation for re-occupancy was provided and the Public Health Officer made the determination for you being able to return to your home.

### **What Are My Results?**

When you returned to your home, you were shown the data that was used to make the decision for your re-occupancy. That data has now undergone technical review and is being provided to you in this package. Please review the attached fact sheet which explains the various types of assessment and sampling that occurred in and around your home. The attached tables of results are for the sampling conducted inside and outside your home. If your home had an indoor cleaning, there are results for sampling conducted before and after cleanup. The action levels for each contaminant of concern for the air and dust samples, are found on the Health Officer Determination page. If you want to know more about the metals which were sampled and their effects, summary information is also attached at the end of this package. Photographs of the sampling and outdoor cleanup are also provided for your review.

### **What Happens Next?**

The fire debris from the facility has been covered with soil sealant and filter fabric and to prevent ash and dust from the facility into ambient air. A fence with a geotextile barrier has been constructed and the facility has 24 hour security. These protective measures will be in place until next steps at the facility are taken, either by the owner or agencies. Currently, negotiations are underway with the facility owner, and agencies are evaluating the various programs which may be able to address this facility, or part of the facility, if the owner cannot properly clean up the property. When the cleanup begins for the burned facility, every effort will be made to ensure that dust and ash do not re-enter your neighborhood. You may notice the smell of burned material and other fire debris as cleanup work is ongoing.

The Unified Command and the supporting agencies involved in this response effort appreciate your patience and cooperation in this process.

For questions about the information in this data package or other questions about the cleanup, you can speak with EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator, Carlin Hafiz, at 213.244.1814 or [hafiz.carlin@epa.gov](mailto:hafiz.carlin@epa.gov). (Spanish version contact for EPA- Para preguntas acerca de la limpieza de la instalacion en si, puede hablar con el Coordinador de Participacion Comunitaria de la EPA, Alejandro Diaz, al 415.972.3242 o [diaz.alejandro@epa.gov](mailto:diaz.alejandro@epa.gov)). The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is also available and can be reached at 213.738.3220